

## MINUTES.

### Report of Committee on the State of Religion and Fraternal Correspondence with the Churches:

Another year has passed away, and again, through the mercy of God, our beloved association is in annual session, and with great evidence of the Divine blessing upon us. Not for many years, if ever before, has the Lord so blessed and increased our churches by baptism; at the same time general peace prevails. This added to the increased production of our fields, gives us great occasion for gratitude to God and encouragement in our work. Our present session has been very harmonious and interesting; the delegation from the churches nearly full; while the preaching has been able and sound. It is thought there is no decrease in the devotion of the churches to the work of Missions, but rather a growth. Our reception by the brethren at Cross Roads was cordial, and our support liberal and abundant. Under all the circumstances we thank God both for the present and the past, and, we hope for the future.

In looking back over the past labors of our beloved association, we feel conscious that much has been done for the advancement of the cause of Christ. This, however, has been done through self-sacrificing adherence to our distinctive principles as taught in the word of God, attended by the Divine blessing. And in no other way can we sustain and advance the work of our body and meet our weighty obligations. Allow us then, brethren, to encourage you in your course of faithfulness. God has committed to you, to us all, a great work. We must be true to our trust. Let us keep prominently before the people—the fall and depravity—the total depravity of man—Salvation by grace. Justification by faith alone, in the imputed righteousness of Christ, obedience as the evidence of faith, and the final perseverance of the Saints. Vastly important in the cause of Christ is strict adherence to the doctrine of a converted membership; leave this out and we are on the broad sea without chart or compass. Our views of church-membership and baptism, make our practice of close communion clearly consistent, yea, a necessity, let others say what they will about it. We may not turn aside to please any one. Our views of baptism are clearly Scriptural, and must be maintained at every cost. The word used in the New Testament, *baptizo*, was not translated, but merely transferred to the English New Testament, and it has precisely the same meaning as our word *dip*. Calvin, the founder of Presbyterianism; Luther, the founder of Lutheranism; and Wesley, the founder of Methodism, all admit this; together with all scholars of note in the world. Dipping in baptism was universal for two hundred and fifty years of the Christian era, and almost universal for twelve hundred years. The Roman Catholics then introduced sprinkling and pouring, and protestants received it from them, while the true church of Christ has maintained dipping from the time of Christ down to the present.

N. L. CLARK, Ch'mn.

L. M. PHILIPS,

J. M. MOORE,

JOS. WHITE,

R. B. LAY,

L. F. SIMMONS,

H. W. LAIRD,

W. L. BASSETT,

E. Y. SKINNER.

### REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Very few of the inhabitants of the world have ever yet heard the Gospel. Nine-tenths of it lies to-day in the darkness of Catholicism and Paganism. Only one-tenth is bright with the Gospel. We live in the light part; and 1,200,000,000 souls live in the darkness. Much has been done by Baptists and other Christians to send the Gospel to these. Over 3,000 men and 2,500 women missionaries have gone to help carry it to them. But these are far too few. Three States, Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia, have more ministers of the Gospel than all the heathen world; yet these States think they have not ministers enough, and want more. What then shall we say of the heathen? Lord Radstock estimates that India alone needs to-day 10,000 additional missionaries. What then shall we say of Africa and China? Full 40,000 ad-

ditional missionaries and the money to support them are needed to-day in heathen lands; and the places are ready and waiting for them to fill.

*Southern Baptists* have, including their Cuban Mission, 21 men and 31 women missionaries, with 60 native helpers in foreign lands. Number of converts, 1,748; baptisms last year, 390; pupils in schools 1,171. Some of these Missions are wonderfully prosperous. Thus Rev. A. J. Diaz, in Havana wrote, March 1st, that he "had baptised 102 converts in two months," and that "From every part of the island the cry comes, 'We want the Gospel.'" Again he says that himself and wife had arisen from their bed "ten times in a single night to bless God for the wonderful things he was doing for the cause in and around Havana." From Mexico, Rev. W. D. Powell writes of the "Grandest trip of my life; having baptized 81 converts, and organized two churches in the month of July." From China, Bro. M. T. Yates writes of one of his deacons, "Yeur San, who has at his individual expense built a chapel costing \$1,000," in which preaching is regularly held.

To support their Missionaries, Southern Baptists gave last year, about \$90,000. Mississippi Baptists giving some \$4,600 of it. Much more is needed this year: \$8,000 is asked of Mississippi Baptists for this year. And you, brethren, of this Association are asked in the name of Christ, to contribute your share of this amount. Every one of our stations need re-inforcing to-day. New and inviting fields are opening continually before our missionaries, and they are begging for men and money to enter these fields. Brethren, they ought not to beg in vain. The time was when the world was closed against the Gospel, then Christians prayed that it might be opened. It is all open now. Then Christians prayed that missionaries might be willing to go, and now, 3,000 young men and women in this country, and 1,600 in England have enrolled their names as ready and waiting to go to any foreign field. Many of these are Baptists. And the list is constantly increasing, every day new applications for work in foreign fields are coming in. O, if Christians could see the hand of God in these things, and give as they could and ought to of their money to send these young labourers to the waiting fields! The world would soon have the Gospel, and the kingdom of God be come on earth.

THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS ARE RECOMMENDED:

1. The intensive circulation of Missionary tracts and papers among the churches of the Association, that the people may in the language of Christ "Look upon the fields." John 4:35.
2. The observing by the churches, in some way, a monthly concert or meeting of prayer for missions. Thus will we obey Christ's command, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest to send forth labourers into his harvest." Luke, 10:2
3. Liberal giving of our money to send out and support missionaries; that thus our abundance of the Gospel may be a supply for the wants of the heathen. 2nd Cor. 8:14.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE WHITFIELD.

Vice. Pres., F. B. M.

CROSS ROADS, NEWTON CO., MISS., Sept. 17, 1887.

Mt. Pisgah Association convened this day in her 50th annual meeting for 1887, with Cross Roads church, Newton county, Mississippi. The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. G. W. Rainer, from Ephesians, 2:8. Theme: Salvation by grace.

After intermission and abundant refreshments, the delegates gathered in the house. The Moderator called the house to order, and opened the service by appropriate song, J. M. Moore leading in prayer.

Bro. J. J. Ingram was appointed to preach at the stand.

Bros. L. M. Phillips, T. C. Viverett and Thos Keith appointed to read letters.

Brethren N. T. Johnson, A. W. W. Grafton and J. H. Limbaugh were appointed a committee on Finance.

Letters were read from 45 churches and the delegates seated.

A motion prevailed to elect the officers of this body by acclamation. Elder N. L. Clark was unanimously elected Moderator; J. M. Moore, Secretary and J. D. Hardy, Treasurer.

Petitionary letters were called for. One presented from Good Hope, Scott county, which, being read, was admitted a member of this body and the delegates seated.

Visiting ministers of our faith and order were invited to seats with us.

Correspondence from sister associations was called for. Brethren J. M. Pearson and J. T. Miles presented themselves and were received from Mt. Olive Association. Elder J. T. Simmons presented a letter and was received as a messenger from Salem Association. Also, Brethren D. M. Robins and W. D. Robins were received from the Springfield Association.

Proceeded to appoint Committees as follows:

*On Preaching:* Pastor and deacons of this church, also J. B. Ishe and A. P. Wash.

*On Missions:* G. W. Rainer, S. J. Tullos, J. T. Simmons, Wm. Graham. A. J. Rainer.

*On Nominations:* J. D. Hardy, J. R. Pace, H. J. Connell, T. J. Graham, J. W. Tillson.

*On Sunday Schools:* J. E. Chapman, L. M. Phillips, J. B. Cleaveland, J. W. Arnold, J. C. McBeth.

*On Education:* Thos. Keith, A. J. Freeman, G. C. Harper, S. Cross.

*On Publication:* J. M. Moore, T. I. Wells, E. Robinson, N. B. Hammonds, A. Gressett.

*On Queries and Requests:* L. P. Murrell, W. P. Vaughn, F. Sansing. A. M. Cross, W. L. Bassett, I. M. Nichols.

*On the State of Religion and Fraternal Correspondence:* N. L. Clark. (nominated chairman by the body). L. M. Phillips, J. M. Moore, Joseph White, R. B. Lay, L. F. Simmons, H. W. Laird, E. G. Skinner. W. L. Bassett.

Elder A. Gressett here presented himself as messenger from Bethlehem Association.

Appointed a Committee on Temperance, viz: Elder A. Gressett, N. L. Clark, G. W. Rainer, T. C. Viverett, L. M. Phillips.

*Resolved.* That a public collection for missions be taken up at the close of the forenoon service to-morrow.

Adjourned to meet at 8:30 o'clock Monday morning.

### LORD'S DAY SERVICES.

Prayer meeting at 10 o'clock, conducted by Elder A. J. Freeman, also Mission talks by Prof. R. M. Leavell, A. J. Freeman and A. J. Cockroff. The sermon on Missions preached at 11 o'clock by Elder J. M. Moore, from 1st Peter, 1:8. Theme: Love to Jesus manifested by implicit and cheerful obedience to His commandments, and by rejoicing in Gospel work.

A collection was then taken for Missions, resulting as follows:

For Domestic Missions, \$11.90; Foreign Missions, \$17.50; Indian Missions, \$12.90. Total, \$42.35.

After refreshments, Elder J. T. Simmons preached, using as a text, John, 10:9. Theme: Christ the door, and the sinner's only hope.



**MONDAY MORNING 8:30.**

The Association was called to order by the Moderator.  
Called the roll, and read the Rules of Decorum.

Again called for petitionary letters.

Committee on Preaching report that Elder L. P. Murrell preach at 11 o'clock.

Proceeded to appoint correspondence to sister Associations.

TO THE SALEM—J. E. Chapman, W. B. Dearing.

OKTIBBEHA—G. W. Rainer, J. J. Ingram.

BETHLEHEM—G. W. Rainer, T. I. Wells.

SPRINGFIELD—L. P. Murrell, J. R. Pace.

MT. OLIVE—L. M. Philips.

HARMONY—S. J. Tullos, A. W. W. Grafton, J. R. Pace

Resolved, That the corresponding messengers be authorized to write their own letters certifying their appointment, signing the names of the Moderator and Clerk of this association.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.**

On Nominations—Report read and adopted. Appendix A.

On Queries and Requests—Report read and adopted. Appendix B.

On Missions—Report read. Speeches pointed and interesting, urging more active mission work, both in the Home and Foreign field, by Brethren G. W. Rainer, A. J. Freeman and N. L. Clark, and the report was adopted. Appendix C.

RESOLVED, That the report of Bro. George Whitfield, on Foreign Missions, be published in our Minutes. (See 2nd page.)

Report on the State of Religion and Fraternal Correspondence read. After encouraging talks from Brethren Clark, Freeman &c., the report was adopted. (See 1st page.)

On Sunday Schools—Report read and adopted. Appendix D.

On Publications—Read and adopted the report. Appendix E.

The hour for preaching being announced, the Association adjourned to hear Bro. Murrell preach, and for dinner.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

The house being called to order, the Moderator called for the Report of Committee on Finance. Report was read and adopted. Appendix F.

Appointed the following named brethren to represent this body in the General Association:

G. W. Rainer, T. I. Wells, L. M. Philips, W. P. Vaughn, N. L. Clark, J. M. Moore, W. L. Bassett, E. G. Skinner, A. J. Freeman, T. C. Viverratt, A. Pearce, N. J. Bryant, A. J. Cockroft.

Committee on Education made their report which was adopted. Appendix G.

Report on temperance called and read. After stirring speeches by Brethren Rainer, Gressett, Freeman, Murrell and J. E. Chapman, the report was adopted by the unanimous vote of the entire congregation. Appendix H.



## RESOLUTIONS.

1. RESOLVED, That in view of the great need of the General Association for funds, we will make a special effort in our churches respectively to raise funds for that work, and send it up to its coming session.
  2. RESOLVED, That the Clerk be authorized to have the Minutes printed at the Baptist Union Publication Society, in Meridian, distributing them to the churches, and that he receive \$20 for his services.
  3. RESOLVED, That any funds remaining in the hands of the Treasurer of this body after current expenses have been met, be transferred to the Treasurer of the General Association.
  4. RESOLVED, That we, as an Association, learn with much regret that our beloved and venerable brother, L. P. Murrell, contemplates going to Texas—thereby severing his connection with this body of which he has been a member for nearly or quite 50 years—sad as it is for us to part with this true and faithful man of God, yet we take great pleasure in recommending him to those among whom in the providence of God he may be thrown. We also request the Southern Baptist Record to publish this resolution, and the Texas Baptist will please copy.
  5. RESOLVED, That we request Elder N. L. Clark to write, at his convenience, the history of Mt. Pisgah Association, publishing the same in the Southern Baptist Record.
  6. RESOLVED, That we very cordially tender the thanks of this body to the Cross Roads church, and the citizens of this community for their kindness and generous hospitality in entertaining us during this session.
  7. RESOLVED, That we now adjourn to meet at Rock Branch Church, Newton county, Mississippi, on Saturday before the third Lord's day in September 1888. "Amazing grace" was sung while the parting hand was taken amid many tears, and closing prayer by Elder L. P. Murrell.
- Thus closed one of the most harmonious and edifying meetings this body has ever held.

J. M. MOORE, Secretary.

N. L. CLARK, Moderator.

## APPENDICES.

### A. *Your Committee on Nominations report,*

That Elder T. I. Wells preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Elder J. W. Arnold his alternate; also, that Elder N. L. Clark preach the next Annual Sermon on Missions and Eld. A. J. Freeman his alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. HARDY, Chairman.

### B. *Report of Committee on Queries and Requests.*

Your Committee make the following report: We find this query from Garlandville church: Is it prudent or safe to invite a minister to preach in our churches, or to serve as pastor of a church, who holds a letter from some other church which knows nothing of the Christian character of said minister since granting the letter? We consider that it is imprudent to invite a minister under such circumstances, and that any member should be considered in disorder who continues to hold a letter after reasonable time and opportunity to find a church home. We also find that five churches request the next meeting of this body. We recommend that the next meeting of this Association be held with Rock Branch church.

Submitted,

L. P. MURRELL, Chairman.

C. *Report of Committee on Missions.*

Your Committee on Missions submit the following report: Feeling that the spread of the Gospel is the duty required of the friends of Jesus Christ, we believe that the great subject of Missions should be kept before our churches and Associations. Our Savior came from heaven to this world on a mission, and when it was accomplished, and he was about to ascend to the Father, He said to His disciples: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Believing that the same responsibility rests upon us as their successors, therefore we should do all in our power to disseminate the gospel of peace. While we deplore the little that has been done, we rejoice to know that the labors of our Missionaries have been and are being blessed in their various fields of labor. The Scriptures teach us to give unto the Lord, and in what better way can we do this than by sending the Gospel to the destitute; for we thereby not only bring Salvation to them, but the rich blessings of God will be poured down abundantly upon us. Brethren, let us heed the Macedonian cry that comes from our own State; and let us also remember that in answer to our prayers, God has opened a great and effectual door in all heathen lands. And now brethren, shall we not go and take possession when we have a vast army of the ministry standing ready and saying, "Send us?" Will we, can we say *No*? Brethren, this will require means. We would therefore recommend that the delegates of this body stir up the churches on the subject of Missions, and urge them to send up more liberal contributions to the General Association to meet our indebtedness to the servants of God who have labored so faithfully in the cause of Christ. Remember, brethren, we are God's stewards. It has been said, and justly too, "The spirit of Christianity is the spirit of missions." And O, may the Great Head of the church deeply impress this fact upon our hearts, till it awakens the interest its importance demands. We claim to be a missionary body, but as our work is done through the General Association, our Minutes show but little of what is done. We recommend that the month of October be used as a time of appeal to the churches for a special contribution to the work of the General Association.

Submitted,

G. W. RAINER, Chairman.

D. *Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.*

It is to be regretted that there is so little interest manifested by our churches in this important branch of Christian duty; but we are glad to believe that there is a growing interest in that direction. There has been, heretofore, some opposition to this work, but we are glad to know that it is giving way. While we think that Sabbath Schools should by no means take the place of the church and the preaching of the Gospel, yet we feel that great good can be accomplished by this work. We would urge it upon our churches, and recommend that they have Baptist schools, and teach our distinctive principles; for we believe that *we only* have the whole truth as it is in Jesus, and we want our children to imbibe this truth in their

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youth. We urge parents to take more interest in encouraging their children to attend, and in the preparation of their lessons. If we do not instruct them others will do it for us, and they may be led into error. Timothy learned the Scriptures in his youth, and Paul says they are "able to make us wise unto salvation." Where we cannot have Sunday Schools, let Christian parents by all means teach their children God's word at home.

Submitted,

J. E. CHAPMAN, Chairman.

*E. Report of Committee on Publications.*

Your Committee on Publications are happy to report that the two Baptist papers heretofore published in the State, viz: The Southern Baptist and The Baptist Record have consolidated under the name of the SOUTHERN BAPTIST RECORD; and under the editorial management of Eld. J. B. Gambrell, who has no superior as an editor in the South. We, as a body, most heartily approve of this union, and we hail it with joy, as an evidence of that unity of sentiment, so long desired, and now beginning to prevail among us as a Denomination in different parts of the State. The Baptists are one in faith, in hope, in doctrine, and should be united in Gospel work. We believe the paper is now eminently fitted to bring about this co-operation, and Baptists all over the State should rally to its support. It is published by the Baptist Union Publication Society, at Meridian, Mississippi. The company assure us that they will soon have a new press of their own, when they will guarantee satisfaction as to the printing of the paper. Also, Bro. Gambrell has been so pressed with other unavoidable duties, that he could not give the attention to the paper that he desired. He hopes soon to be able to give his whole time and thought to its interests, and to make it a far better paper than we have ever before had in the State, and to make it every way worthy of the support of the Denomination throughout the State. We need a paper badly, and we need a good one. Let every Baptist family subscribe for the Southern Baptist Record, and the editor will be able to make it a good paper. It is a sound exponent of the faith and principles of Baptists and deserves our hearty support.

We would not omit to recommend "Kind Words" for the use of Sunday Schools, and for young people generally.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. MOORE, Chairman.

*F. Report of Committee on Finance.*

Your Committee on Finance report the following: We have examined the Treasurer's report and find it correct. Sent up by the churches the following amounts:

For Associational Purposes,.....	\$110.45
" Domestic Missions,.....	16.25
" Foreign Missions,.....	13.55
" Indian Missions,.....	10.90
Collected on Lord's Day for Domestic Missions, .....	11.90
" " " Foreign Missions,.....	17.50
" " " Indian Missions,.....	12.95

Total,

\$193.80

Respectfully submitted,

N. T. JOHNSON, Chairman.



G.

*Report of Committee on Education.*

Although your intelligent body is fully awake to the importance of Education, yet too much stress cannot be placed upon the urgent necessity of proper mental culture. With the increased facilities for education, the improvement in text books &c., at this day, no parent should feel that he has discharged his whole duty to his child, unless he has afforded him a fair opportunity for acquiring a liberal education.

Under our form of civil government and free institutions, the education of the masses is a matter of great import, hence the necessity of looking more to the building up and maintaining the common schools of the country. Although we have guaranteed to us by the constitution of the State, free schools for at least four months in the year; yet unless we supplement the public fund and lengthen the time to six or nine months in the year, we cannot give our children the education demanded in this day of progress and enlightenment. We are aware that to do this in our present impoverished condition would entail a heavy burden upon many of us; but when we consider that an education is the best legacy we can bequeath to our children, we should sacrifice much to effect an object so desirable. Let us all take this matter home with us and not content ourselves with the mere adoption of a report favorable to education without further effort to aid in that noble work. If the common schools are supported as they should be, the building up and developing of schools of high grade and colleges will steadily follow. And it is a gratifying fact that efforts are being made all over our State to establish such schools and colleges, many of which institutions we would specially mention if permissible in a brief report. We may be pardoned however for saying a word in behalf of that grand old institution, Mississippi College, located at Clinton, Mississippi. We feel that we cannot too highly commend this College. She is doing good work, being fully equipped in every respect. Without saying more, we endorse Mississippi College fully, and would earnestly plead with Baptists to send their sons to Clinton.

We as a denomination should not fail to encourage the very highest degree of mental culture; of course by no means neglecting the cultivation of that better part in man, the heart; and we know of no institution of learning where high mental culture, combined with proper moral and religious instruction, is so thoroughly inculcated as at Mississippi College. Hence we cordially recommend to Baptists to inquire into the merits of this institution and be convinced of its fitness for good.

Respectfully submitted,

THOS. KEITH, Chairman.

H.

*Report of Committee on Temperance.*

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to report the following: "Be temperate in all things" is a Scriptural injunction, and if adhered to, it would save millions of human beings from wretchedness and degradation, while intemperance causes wide-spread de-

struction and misery. The intemperate use of alcoholic intoxicants, and the unlawful liscensing of the liquor traffic, may well be called the matchless evil. It has been and is still the most terrible evil which we, as an American people, have to confront; desolating more homes, causing more blood-shed and woe than wars or famines, filling our country with orphans; our alms-houses with paupers; our jails and penitentiaries with convicts; our Insane Asylums with lunatics, thereby burdening the people with heavy and unnecessary taxation. Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That we, as an Association, place ourselves on record as being from first to last opposed to the liquor traffic, and in favor of prohibition. *Resolved* further, that we favor local option, and pledge ourselves to use every laudable means for the suppression of the traffic and the promotion of prohibition. *Resolved* also, that we regard the signing of petitions to legalize dram selling, and the habit of using intoxicants as a beverage inconsistent with the profession of the Christian religion, that it is dishonoring to God, and detrimental to the cause of our blessed Redeemer. Surley, no Christian can afford to advocate the continuance of a business or traffic fraught with so much evil. Let us work and pray for the redemption of not only our own beautiful South land, but for all this great land of ours, that it may be freed from the baneful curse of the saloon and grog-shop. Yea, let us labor for home, for God, and for our native land.

Submitted.

A. GRESSETT, Chairman.

### ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

N. L. Clark, Decatur,  
L. P. Murrell, Lake,  
D. Fore.  
G. W. Rainer, Hickory,  
P. Vaughn, Chunky Station,  
J. E. Chapman, Newton,  
A. J. Freeman, "  
L. M. Philips, "  
H. O. White, Moore's Mill,  
A. A. Powell, "

J. J. Ingram, Dixon,  
S. J. Tullos, "  
J. M. Moore, Union,  
J. M. Kelly, "  
J. W. Arnold, "  
T. I. Wells, Moore's Mill,  
B. W. Dearing, Newton,  
J. K. P. Shows, Union,  
A. G. Blackwell, Sylvarena,  
A. J. Cockroft, Lena,

W. P. Vaughn, Chunky Station.

### LICENTIATES AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

F. Sansing, Union,  
T. M. Gould, Lake,  
J. E. Pearson, Lena,  
Wm Sessums, "  
W. G. Everett, Hickory,  
J. M. Hutson, Harperville,  
E. W. Breland, Dixon,

Joseph White, Decatur,  
W. R. Haily, Hickory,  
T. L. Moore, Union,  
R. L. Herrington, Dixon,  
E. H. Garner, Lucerne,  
J. L. Hammond, Decatur,  
H. Bruce, "

E. W. Sumeral, Jewell Hill.

## ABSTRACT OF FAITH—PREAMBLE.

We, the Churches of Jesus Christ, who have been regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith, and convinced of the utility of a combination of churches, and of maintaining a correspondence for the preserving of union amongst churches of the same faith, form ourselves into an Association upon the following principles, viz.

1. We believe in one Triune God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God, and are the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam from his original rectitude, and in him, all his posterity; in consequence of which, we inherit a fallen and depraved nature, consequently, the scriptural doctrine of the total depravity of human nature, and of man's inability to restore himself into the favor of God.

4. We believe that God hath loved his people with an everlasting love that he chose them in Christ before the foundation of the world, that he calleth them with a holy and effectual calling and being justified alone through the righteousness of Christ imputed to them are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

5. We believe there is one Mediator between God and man—the Man Christ Jesus—who, by the satisfaction he made to the law and justice, in becoming an offering of sin, hath, by his most precious blood, become the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

6. We believe that the gospel is God's appointed means of calling sinners to the knowledge of the truth—that he has commanded it to be preached to every creature, and requires all men to repent, believe and obey.

7. We believe that the gospel is made effectual by the operation of the Holy Spirit, and that the sinner, in order to be saved, must be born again.

8. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, and are evidences of a gracious state, and all believers are bound to obey every command of God from a principle of love.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

## GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful persons who have given themselves to the Lord and to one another in brotherly covenant, to keep up a Godly discipline, agreeable to the rules of the New Testament.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only head and Lawgiver of His church; that the government is with the body, the church, and is equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Gospel ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in the church until his second coming.

4. We believe that the Ordinance of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are properly administered only by ministers called of God, and set apart to the work by the imposition of hands by a Presbytery of regular Baptist Ministers.

5. We believe that immersion only, is Baptism, and that believers in Christ are the only proper subjects.

6. We believe that none but regularly baptized church members have a right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

7. We believe that it is the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public profession of their faith, to submit to the Ordinances of the gospel and give themselves as members to the visible church.

8. We believe it to be the duty of every church to expel from her communion every member that is immoral in conduct, or that holds doctrine contrary to the Scriptures.



## OBJECTS AND POWERS OF THIS ASSOCIATION.

1. This Association acknowledges and maintains that each church is an independent body, and possesses the sole right to exercise and control its own affairs; and, therefore this association has no right or power to interfere with the internal rights and privileges of churches composing its body, but may withdraw from any church which may hold false doctrine, or tolerate immoral practice.

2. The objects of this Association shall be to promote fellowship and harmony among the churches; to inquire into any difficulties between the churches, and remove them if possible; to give the churches the best advice they can in difficult matters, when solicited, and, in general, to advance the interest of the Redeemer's Kingdom in any way they may deem practicable.

3. With regard to the benevolent institutions in our country, we declare it to be the inalienable right of every association, of every church, of every individual member of a church, to support them, according to their own views of duty and dictates of their own conscience; and the right shall never be called in question in this association. And any motion whereby this right is called in question shall be instantly ruled out by the moderator, as being unconstitutional.

4. This Association may maintain a friendly correspondent when convenient with other religious bodies of the same faith.

5. Ministers of the gospel, in good standing, though not delegates may be invited to seats in the association, but not to have the privilege of voting.

6. The Association may appoint any person or persons by and with their consent, to transact any business they may deem necessary.

7. The Association may adjourn to any time and place they think proper.

8. The Association shall keep a record of their proceedings, and have them printed when necessary.

9. The Association shall have a fund, and appoint a treasurer to take charge of it, who shall account to the Association for all monies which shall come into his hands for the use of the Association.

10. The Association may form their own By-Laws, and regulate their own proceedings in such a manner as they may think expedient.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall consist of delegates chosen by the churches to which they respectively belong, and shall be styled the Mt. Pisgah Association.

2. Such delegates shall be members in good standing, and no members under church censure, shall be allowed a seat in the Association.

3. They shall produce letters certifying their appointment by their respective churches, and stating the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and deceased, during the preceding associational year, with the total number in fellowship, and such other statistical matters as the association may direct.

4. This association shall have a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be annually chosen by a majority of the members present, by ballot or otherwise. Said officers shall fill their respective places, if present, at the succeeding association, until a new election takes place, and while in office, shall discharge the duties ordinarily incidental to those offices.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the association, they shall petition by letter and delegates, and, if orthodox and orderly, shall be received, and the moderator shall recognize them by giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the body.

6. Every church shall be allowed two delegates and no more until her number shall exceed one hundred—three, until it shall exceed one hundred and fifty, then four and no more.

7 The association shall neither answer or debate any query on Gospel doctrine, except it be merely to explain the meaning of the Articles of Faith of this association.

8 Every motion made in order and seconded, shall be reduced to writing if requested by any member, and shall be considered by the association except withdrawn by the mover before discussion.

9 Motions made and lost, shall not be recorded on the minutes, unless so ordered at the time.

10 If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each point separately.

11 Only one member shall speak at the same time, who shall arise from his seat and address the moderator. He shall confine himself to the subject properly in debate, cast no reflection on the association, or any member thereof and shall not be interrupted while speaking.

12 No person shall speak more than once upon the same subject till all who may desire to speak thereon have enjoyed that privilege, and not then without leave of the Association.

13 The moderator shall have the privilege of speaking on any question to the body.

14 The moderator shall decide questions of order, but an appeal from such decision may be taken to the whole body, which shall be decided without debate.

15 A majority of the members present shall be necessary to carry any motion or proposition, and the moderator shall vote as other members when the question is taken; and in case of a tie, the question shall again be put to the Association, and if not then decided, the moderator shall proceed to decide the matter in controversy by lot.

16 Committees shall be nominated by the moderator, subject to the approval of the Association.

17 There shall be no talking or whispering while a brother is speaking.

18 No brother shall finally depart from the Association without leave of the body.

19 The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called over whenever necessary.

20 The minutes shall be read and carefully corrected, if necessary, and signed by the moderator and clerk, before the Association rise.

21 A motion for final adjournment shall be construed to involve the previous reading and adjustment of the minutes.

22 The Association shall be opened by prayer.

23 The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read by order from the moderator, as soon as the Association convenes on Monday.

24. The foregoing articles shall be subject to alteration or amendment, at any regular meeting of the Association, by a majority of the Association.

## CHURCHES

County Line	
Concord .....	
Cross Roads .....	
Bethlehem .....	
Bethel .....	
Bethany .....	
Beulah .....	
Decatur .....	
Enon .....	
Ebenezer .....	
Ebenezer .....	
Fellowship .....	
Friendship .....	
Garlandville .....	
Good Hope .....	
Good Hope .....	
Hickory .....	
Harperville .....	
Lake .....	
Linwood .....	
Liberty .....	
Mt Sinai .....	
Midway .....	
Mt Vernon .....	
Mt Pleasant .....	
New Prospect .....	
New Hope .....	
New Prospect .....	
New Hope .....	
Newton .....	
Oakland .....	
Old Union .....	
Pleasant Hill .....	
Pine Ridge .....	
Pinkney .....	
Poplar Springs .....	
Prarie Concord .....	
Pine Bluff .....	
Randall Hill .....	
Rock Branch .....	
Salem .....	
Sulphur Springs .....	
Sand Springs .....	
Sardis .....	
Sylvarena .....	
Union .....	
Woodland .....	
Sharon .....	



# STATISTICAL TABLE.

STATISTICAL TABLE																										
CHURCHES	DELEGATES	COUNTY	POST OFFICES	PASTORS	Baptized	Restored	Excluded	Dead	Males	Females	Colored	Total number	No Minutes	Associational Fund	Domestic Missions	Foreign Missions	Indian Missions	Contribution to Gen Association for Missions in 1886	Time meeting	Ord. ministers						
County Line	J M Noore, F Sansing	Neshoba	Union	J M Moore	23	6	1	1	26	34	60	20	2 50					6 15	1							
Concord	S C Cross	Jasper	Garlandville	B W Dearing	1	1	1	1	16	21	37	15	2 25					6 25	2							
Cross Roads	A M Cross, S A Algood	Newton	Decatur	A J Freeman	2	9	11	1	15	31	56	25	2 50					3 60								
Bethlehem	J B Germany	Newton	New Ireland	J M Moore	9	1	2	4	28	39	67	20	2 00					18 70								
Bethel	J E Chapman, B W Dearing	Newton	Newton	J E Chapman	5	2		1	26	51	77	20	2 00		1 00	2 70		14 45	1							
Bethany	H H Sharp, W J Sharp	Neshoba	Edinburg	S J Tullos	7	3		2	18	27	45	20	5 00					74 25	1							
Beulah	Jos White, E M Laird, W Graham	Newton	Decatur	H O White	36	4	5	1	82	103	187	50	8 00					5 25	1							
Decatur	Clark, T Keith, N T Johnson, T G Coker	Newton	Decatur	N L Clark	10	15	2	2	56	99	173	30	2 25		2 50	2 50	2 50	22 70	1							
Enon	W W Jenkins, B F Clarke	Neshoba	Union	L B Fancher	21	16	3	2	27	36	63	20	1 25					4 10	1							
Ebenezer	J C McBeth, Berry Hillmon	Neshoba	Beech Spring	J J Ingram	2	2	1	2	34	52	84	10	3 00					12 10	2							
Ebenezer	E N Robinson	Newton	Lucerne	A J Smith	8	4	1		27	52	79	40	4 00	1 00	2 00				1							
Fellowship	S H Parker, J M Oxner	Leake	walnut Grove	A J Cockroft	1	1	13	2	6	11	17	10	1 50						1							
Friendship		Leake	Lena	T E Morris	1	1	4		6	7	12	10	1 00						1							
Garlandville	J D Hardy	Jasper	Garlandville	A J Freeman	1	1	4	1	5	7	10	10	1 00						1							
Good Hope	C G Johnson, S W Monroe	Newton	Hickory	J E Chapman	1	4	1	6	11	16	27	20	2 00						1							
Good Hope	E L Warren, G W Culpepper	Scott	Hickory	D Fore	1	4	1	6	11	16	27	20	2 00						1							
Hickory	J A White, C R Pace	Newton	Harpersville	N L Clark	4	4	1	14	2	40	89	30	3 45	3 25	3 25	1 70			1							
Harperville	G C Harper, T J Hamilton	Scott	Lake	M B Maumb	15	11	3	2	23	27	44	25	2 50						1							
Lake	W A Wilson, C C Simmons	Scott	Lake	J H Grundy	8	6	2	1	23	27	50	20	2 50						1							
Linwood	J J Ingram	Neshoba	Dixon	J J Ingram	15	9	3	10	33	46	79	35	4 75	75	1 75	75	6 00	1								
Liberty		Neshoba	Dixon	S J Tullos	3	3	2	1	12	23	35	20	2 00					8 15	1							
Mt Sinai	S J Tullos, J C Walton	Newton	Newton	A J Freeman	9	7	3		22	35	55	15	1 50					5 00	1							
Midway	A J Freeman, G F Williams	Newton	Hickory	G W Rainer	3	1	4	1	16	41	57	30	3 00					1 00	1							
Mt Vernon	N B Hammonds	Newton	Chunky Sta	T I Wells	3	2			7	9	16	10	1 00						1							
Mt Pleasant	W P Vaughn, T J Graham	Newton	Chunky Sta	T I Wells	3	2			37	45	82	30	3 00						1							
New Prospect	J F Ball	Lauderdale	Union	J W Arnold	17	2	5	3	37	45	82	30	1 10	25	30		14 05	1								
New Hope	J P Smith, R L Herrington	Neshoba	Lucerne	J W Arnold	7	3	1	1	14	15	29	11	2 05				3 25	1								
New Prospect	E H Garner, J P Barrett	Newton	Lake	D Fore	3	6	3	1	14	37	51	20	1 80	1 00			23 10	1								
New Hope	E L Warren, G W Culpepper	Scott	Newton	N L Clark	22	4	1	1	3	40	96	40	4 00				19 15	1								
Newton	L M Philip, J H Sansing	Newton	Moore's Mill	T I Wells	5	2	3	1	12	26	38	20	2 50						1							
Oakland	T I Wells, G W Rainer	Newton	Harpersville	L M Phillips	4	2			51	85	136	50	5 00				1 65	1								
Old Union	J T Bryant, W A Phelps	Scott	Conehatta	L P Murrell	6	11	2	14	4	5	49	30	4 75				2 00	1								
Pleasant Hill	L P Murrell, J R Pace, J P Pace	Newton	Union	J W Arnold	1	4			22	27	137	32	3 20				1 35	1								
Pine Ridge		Newton	Newton	B W Dearing	12	1	1	1	10	11	24	15	1 50				1 00	1								
Pinkney	W B F Adams, J W Adams	Newton	Newton	B W Dearing	2	1			21	28	49	10	1 50				3 65	1								
Poplar Springs	A J Raynor, L F Simmons	Newton	Newton	B W Dearing	2	1			18	24	43	15	1 50				15 10	3								
Prarie Concord		Newton	Jewell Hill	L M Phillips	1	3	1	4	2	24	61	30	2 50				12 00	2								
Pine Bluff	P M Wash, A P Wash	Jasper	Union	J M Moore	2	1	3		5	16	21	10	1 00	3 50			5 00	1								
Randall Hill	R B Lay	Newton	Forest	J H Grundy	1	1	2	2	21	31	55	20	2 00				1 50	1								
Rock Branch	H W Laird, J B Cleaveland	Scott	Conhatta	A J Freeman	1	4			7	2	27	15	2 00				2 00	1								
Salem	I M Nichols	Scott	Newton	H O White	3	1	1	1	11	23	34	15	2 00				13 40	2								
Sulphur Spring	H J Connel, R H Ames	Newton	Sebastopol	L M Phillips	12	2	1		67	84	150	50	5 00				4 20	1								
Sand Springs	E G Skinner, W J Douglas	Leake	Sylvarena	J T Simmons	51	2	2	6	11	12	23	15	1 50						1							
Sardis	C C Esom	Smith	Union	J M Moore	6	1	1	9	9	9	18	10	1 00	1 00		1 25			1							
Sylvarena	Bryant, J W Tilson, Harrison, Moore	Newton	Philadelphia	J C Foster	2	2	2	6	19	36	55						2 00	3								
Union	T C Viverett, W L Bassett	Neshoba																	1							
Woodland	A W W Gratton																		1							
Sharon	Dismissed																		1							
Total					336	175	28	147	34	35	1065	1636	24 27 21	1073	110	45	16	25	13	05	10	90	312	5	21	15







